Mr. S---n R---.

THE Enclosed Memorial you are Charg'd with, in the behalf of many Thousands of the good People of England.

There is neither Popish, Jacobite, Seditious, Court, or Party Interest concern'd in it; but Honesty and Truth.

You are commanded by Two Hundred Thousand Englishmen, to deliver to the H--e of C--s, and to inform them that it is no Banter, but Serious Truth; and a Serious Regard to it is expected; nothing but Justice, and their Duty is required, and it is required by them who have both a Right to Require, and Power to Compel, viz. the People of England.

We could have come to the House Strong enough to Oblige them to hear us, but we have avoided any Tumults, not desiring to Embroil, but to Save our Native Country.

If you refuse to Commence it to them, you will find cause in a short time to Repent it.

To R---t H---y Esq; S---r to the Hou--e of C--s, These.

The Memorial.

To the K---g, C---s, and B---s in Parliament Assembled.

A Memorial,

From the Gentlemen, Free-holders and Inhabitants of the Counties of ——— in the behalf of themselves, and many Thousands of the good People of *England.*

Gentlemen,

It were to be wish'd you were Men of that Temper, and possess'd of so much Honour, as to bear with the Truth, tho' it be against you: Especially from us who have so much Right to tell it you; but since even Petitions to you from Your Masters, (for such are the People who Chose you) are so Haughtily receiv'd, as with the Committing the Authors to Illegal Custody; you must give us leave to give you this fair Notice of your Misbehavour, without Exposing our Names.

If you think fit to rectifie your Error, you will do well, and possibly may hear no more of us; but if not, assure your selves the Nation will not long hide their Resentment. And tho' there are no stated proceedings to bring you to your Duty, yet the great Law of Reason says, and all Nations allow, that whatever Power is above Law, is Burthensome, and Tyrannical; and may be Reduced by *Extrajudicial* Methods: You are not above the Peoples Resentments, they that made you Members, may reduce you to the same Rank from whence they chose you; and may give you a Taste of their abused kindness, in Terms you may not be pleas'd with.

When the People of *England* Assembl'd in Convention, Presented the Crown to His Present Majesty, they annexed a Declaration of the Rights of the People, in which was Express'd what was Illegal and Arbitrary in the former Reign, and was claim'd as of Right to be done by Succeedings Kings of *England.*

In

In like manner, here follows, *Gentlemen*, a short abridgement of the Nations Grievances, and of your Illegal and Unwarrantable Practices; and a Claim of Right which we make in the Name of our Selves, and such of the good of *England*, as are justly Allarum'd at your Proceedings.

I. To raise Funds, for Money, and Declare by borrowing Clauses, that whosoever Advances Money on those Funds, shall be Re-imburs'd out of the Next Aids, if the Funds fall short; and then give Subsequent Funds, without Transferring the Deficiency of the former, is a horrible Cheat on the Subject who lent the Money; a Breach of Publick Faith, and destructive to the Honour and Credit of Parliaments.

II. To imprison Men who are not your own Members, by no Proceedings but a Vote of the House, and to continue them in Custody, *Sine Die*, is Illegal; a Notorious Breach of the Liberty of the People; Setting up a Dispensing Power in the House of Commons, which your Fathers never pretended to; bidding Defiance to the *Habeas Corpus* Act, which is the Bulwalk of Personal Liberty, Destructive of the Laws, and Betraying the Trust repos'd in you. *The King at the same time being obliged to ask you leave to continue in Custody the Horrid Assassinators of his Person.*

III. Committing to Custody those Gentlemen, who at the command of the People (whose Servants you are) and in Peaceable way to put you in mind of Petitioning for Redress of Grievances, which has by all Parliaments before you, been acknowledged to be their undoubted Right.

IV. Voting a Petition from the Gentlemen of *Kent* Insolent, is Ridiculous and Impertinent, because the Free-holders of *England* are your Superiors; and is a contradiction in it self, and a Contempt of the *English* Freedom, and contrary to the Nature of Parliamentary Power.

V. Voting People Guilty of Bribery and Ill Practices, and Committing them as aforesaid, without Bail, and then upon Submission, and kneeling to your House, discharging them; Exacting Exorbitant Fees by your Officers is Illegal, Betraying the Justice of the Nation, Selling the Liberty of the Subject, incouraging the Extortion and Villany of Gaolers and Officers; and discontinuing the Legal Prosecution of Offenders in the ordinary Course of Law.

VI. Prosecuting the Crime of Bribery in some to serve a Party, and then proceed no further, tho' Proof lay before you, is Partial and Unjust; and a Scandal upon the Honour of Parliaments.

VII. Voting the Treaty of Partition Fatal to *Europe*, Because it gave so much of the *Spanish* Dominions to the *French*, and not concern your selves to prevent their taking Possession of it all. Deserting the *Dutch* when the *French* are at their Doors, till it be almost too late to help them; is Unjust to our Treaties, and unkind to our Confederates, Dishonourable to the *English* Nation, and shew you very negligent of the Safety of *England*, and of our Protestant Neighbours.

VIII. Ordering immediate Hearings to trifling Petitions, to please Parties in Elections; and *Postpone* the Petition of a Widow for the Blood of her Murthered Daughter, without giving it a reading: is an illegal Delay of Justice, dishonourable to the Publick Justice of the Nation.

IX. Addressing the King to displace his Friends upon bare Surmises, before a Legal Tryal or Article prov'd, is Illegal, and Inverting the Law, and making Execution go before Judgment; contrary to the true sence of the Law, which esteems every Man a good Man till something appears to the contrary.

X.

X. Delaying the Proceedings upon Capital Impeachments, to blaſt the Reputation of the Perſons, without proving the Fact; is Illegal and Oppreſſive, Deſtructive of the Liberty of *Engliſhmen*, a Delay of Juſtice, and a Reproach to Parliaments.

XI. Suffering Swacy and indecent Reporaches upou his His Majeſties Perſon to be publickly made in your Houſe; particularly by that Impudent Scandal of Parliaments *J----n H---w*, without ſhewing ſuch Reſentments as you ought to do. The ſaid *J----n H-----w* ſaying only "That His Majeſty had made a Felonious "Treaty to rob his Neighbours; inſinuating that the Partition Treaty (which was every way as juſt as blowing up one Mans houſe to ſave anothers) "was a Combi-"nation of the King to rob the Crown of *Spain* of its due. This is making a *Billingſgate* of the Houſe, and ſetting up to *Bully* your Sovereign, contrary to the Intent and meaning of that Freedom of Speech, which you claim as a Right; is ſcandalous to Parliaments; Undutiful and Unmannerly, and a Reproach to the whole Nation.

XII. Your S--r Exacting the Exorbitant Rate of 10 *l. per Diem* for the V----s, and giving the Printer incouragement to raiſe it on the People, by ſelling them at 4 *d. per* Sheet; is an Illegal and Arbitrary Exaction, diſhonourable to the *Houſe*, and burthenſome to the *People*.

XIII. Neglecting ſtill to pay the Nations Debts, Compounding for Intereſt, and *Poſtponing* Petitions; is Illegale, Diſhonourable, and Deſtructive of the Publick Faith.

Publickly neglecting the great work of *Reformation of Manners*, tho' often preſs'd to it by the King, to the great Diſhonour of God, and incouragement of Vice, is a Neglect of your Duty, and an abuſe of the Truſt repoſed in you, by *God*, His *Maieſty*, and the *People*.

XV. Being Scandalouſly Vicious your ſelves, both in your Morals and Religion; Lewd in Life, and Erroneous in Doctrine, having publick Blaſphemers and Impudent Deniers of the Divinity of our Saviour amongſt you; and ſuffering them unreproved and unpuniſhed, to the infinite Regret of all good Chriſtians, and the juſt Abhorrence of the whole Nation.

Wherefore, In the ſaid Proſpect of the impending Ruine of our Native Country, while Parliaments (which ought to be the Security and Defence of our Laws and Conſtitution) betray their Truſt and abuſe the People whom they ſhould protect: And no other way being left us but *That Force* which we are very loath to make uſe of, that Poſterity may know we did not inſenſibly fall under the Tyranny of a Prevailing Party, We do hereby

Claim and Declare.

1. That it is the Undoubted Right of the People of *England*, in caſe their Repreſentatives in Parliament do not proceed according to their Duty, and the Peoples Intereſt, to inform them of their Diſlike, diſown their Actions, and to direct them to ſuch things as they think fit, either by Petition, Addreſs, Propoſol, Memorial, or any other peaceable way.

2. That the *Houſe of Commons*, ſeparately and otherwiſe than by Bill legally Paſs'd into an Act, have no Legal Power to ſuſpend or diſpenſe with the Laws of the Land, any more than the King has by his Prerogative.

3. That the *Houſe of Commons* have no Legal Power to impriſon any Perſon, or commit them to Cuſtody of Serjants, or otherwiſe (their own Members except)

but

but ought to Addreſs the King, to cauſe any Perſon, on good Grounds, to be apprehended, which Perſon ſo apprehended, ought to have the Benefit of the *Habeas Corpus* Act, and be fairly brought to Tryal by due Courſe of Law.

4. That if the *Houſe of Commons*, in Breach of the Laws and Liberties of the People, do betray the Truſt repoſs'd in them, and act Negligent or Arbitrarily and Illegally, it is the undoubted Right of the People of *England* to call them to an Account for the ſame, and by Convention, Aſſembly or Force may proceed againſt them as Traitors and Betrayers of their Country.

Theſe things we think proper to declare, as the unqueſtion'd Right of the People of *England*, whom you ſerve, and in purſuance of that Right (avoiding the Ceremony of Petitioning our Inferiors, for ſuch you are by your preſent Circumſtances, as the Perſon *ſent* is leſs than the *Sender*) We do publickly proteſt againſt all your foreſaid Illegal Actions, and in the Name of our Selves, and of all the good People of *England*, do

Require and Demand.

1. That all the Publick Juſt Debts of the Nation be forthwith Paid and Diſcharg'd.

2. That all Perſons *illegally impriſon'd*, as aforeſaid, be either immediately diſcharged, or admitted to Bail, as by Law they ought; and the Liberty of the Subject Recogniz'd and Reſtor'd.

3. That *J----n H----w* aforeſaid be obliged to ask His Majeſty Pardon for his Vile Reflections, or be immediately Expell'd the Houſe.

4. That the growing Power of *France* be taken into Conſideration; the Succeſſion of the Emperor to the Crown of *Spain* ſupported, our *Proteſtant* Neighbours protected, as the true Intereſt of *England*, as the *Proteſtant Religion* requires.

5. That the *French* King be obliged to quit *Flanders*, or that His Majeſty be addreſs'd to declare War againſt him.

6. That *Suitable Supplies* be granted to His Majeſty for the putting all theſe neceſſary things in execution, and that care be taken that ſuch Taxes as are raiſed, may be more equally Aſſeſſed and Collected, and ſcandalous Deficiences prevented.

7. That the *Thanks of the Houſe* may be given to thoſe Gentlemen who ſo gallantly appear'd in the behalf of their Country, with the *Kentiſh* Petition, and have been ſo ſcandalouſly uſed for it.

Thus *Gentlemen*. You have your Duty laid before you, which 'tis hoped you will think of; but if you continue to neglect it, you may expect to be treated according to the Reſentment of an *injur'd Nation*; *for Engliſhmen* are no more to be Slaves to *Parliament*, than to a King.

Our Name is Legion, and we are Many.

22 JY 63

Poſtſcript.

If you require to have this Memorial ſign'd with our Names, it ſhall be done on your firſt Order, and Perſonally Preſented.

FINIS